Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

JOIN THE SAINT TASKFORCE

Dear Colleague:

During his Joint Session to Congress, President Trump announced the creation of the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement (VOICE) initiative. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will announce the VOICE office later today. This office will promote the misconception that immigrants are a greater threat to public safety than American citizens.

This assertion flies in the face of the facts. All available data demonstrates that immigrants are actually *less* likely to commit crimes than people born in the United States. Census data from 1980 through 2010 indicates that for men between 18 to 49 years of age, noncitizens were one-half to one-fifth less likely to be incarcerated for a crime.

Furthermore, a study recently released by University of California-San Diego clearly found that immigrant-friendly communities are both safer and more economically vibrant. The researchers found that on average, there are 35.5 fewer violent crimes committed per 10,000 people in counties self-designated as immigration "sanctuaries" compared to non-sanctuary counties.

We have created the Saved by American Immigrants National Taskforce, or SAINT, as a direct response to President Trump's discriminatory actions. The taskforce will highlight stories of immigrants in the United States who have helped save American lives.

We welcome you to join our taskforce, which aims to share these important stories through events and speeches, both in D.C. and back home. In so doing, we hope to counter the false narrative that immigrants are dangerous, and instead focus on the heroic achievements of members of this diverse community.

Sincerely,

Vared Polis
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Norma Torres

Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas

Member of Congress